



U.S. House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary

F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr., Chairman

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News Advisory

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House Judiciary Committee Field Hearing Friday in Dubuque, Iowa

Examining Whether the Reid-Kennedy Amnesty is a Repeat of the Failed Amnesty of 1986

What: Oversight Hearing titled, "Is the Reid-Kennedy Bill a Repeat of the Failed Amnesty of 1986?"

Who: House Judiciary Committee – Rep. F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr. (R-Wis.), Chairman

When: 9:00 a.m., Friday, September 1, 2006

Where: Grand River Center, Meeting Rooms 1 & 2, 2nd Floor
500 Bell Street
Dubuque, Iowa

The 1986 Immigration Reform and Control Act included what was promised as a one-time amnesty to address the problem of a couple of million illegal immigrants in the U.S. The 1986 amnesty, though much smaller than the proposed Reid-Kennedy amnesty, was riddled with fraud. Not surprisingly, since the 1986 amnesty, millions more illegal immigrants have come to the U.S. There are currently an estimated 11 million illegal immigrants in the U.S. To address this problem, the Senate has again passed a proposal granting amnesty to most of those here illegally, just as the 1986 law did.

PROBLEMS...

- ✓ The 1986 amnesty has actually encouraged more people to reside and work illegally in the U.S. because they believe they will eventually receive their own amnesty. Why would the Reid-Kennedy amnesty be any different?
- ✓ Each year hundreds of thousands of new illegal immigrants stay in the U.S., drawn primarily by the promise of better work in the U.S., despite the law against hiring illegal workers. Enforcement of the 1986 law's sanctions against employers who hire illegal immigrants remains a glaring failure.

THIS HEARING WILL...

- ➡ Examine why the 1986 amnesty failed to address the problem of illegal immigration and examine whether the Reid-Kennedy bill is destined to repeat this failure on a larger scale.

WITNESSES: Sen. Charles Grassley (R-Iowa); Mr. Michael Cutler, Center for Immigration Studies; Mr. John Fonte, Hudson Institute; Professor Robert Lee Maril, East Carolina University; and Ms. Ann Michalski, Dubuque City Council.

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